

REMARKS

Upon entry of the above amendments, claim 12 is the only pending claim. Support for the amendments to claim 12 can be found in Applicants' specification, for example, at page 3, line 23. Applicants' amendments to claim 12 do not introduce any new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Applicants' amendments and claim cancellations are made without prejudice thereto or disclaimer thereof any subject matter contained therein.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Office Action, pages 2-4. Solely to expedite prosecution and not in acquiescence to the rejection, Applicants have amended claim 12 thereby rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

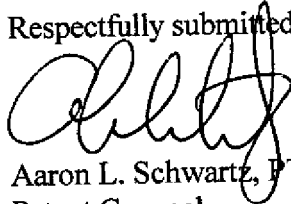
Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Office Action, pages 4-5. Solely to expedite prosecution and not in acquiescence to the rejection, Applicants have amended claim 12 thereby rendering the rejection moot. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicants do not believe that any other fee is due in connection with this filing. If, however, Applicants do owe any such fee(s), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee(s) to Deposit Account No. **02-2334**. In addition, if there is ever any other fee deficiency or overpayment under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17 in connection with this patent application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiency or overpayment to Deposit Account No. **02-2334**.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and request that it be allowed. The Examiner is requested to call the Undersigned if any issues arise that can be addressed over the phone to expedite examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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